

**REMARKS**

The present application includes claims 1-23, of which claim 8 has been cancelled, claim 1 has been amended and to which claims 21-23 have been added by the above amendments. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. A version of the claims with markings to show changes made (deletions bracketed; insertions underlined) is set forth in an attachment hereto.

The Applicants now turn to the Examiner's objection to claims 1-20. Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-17 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Beney (U.S. Pat. No. 4,768,241) and O'Neill (U.S. Pat. No. 4,852,842). Claims 6, 13, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beney in view of O'Neill and further in view of Lubinskas et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,398,622). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for reasons set forth herein.

Applicants now address the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Beney discloses a patient support structure (22) which supports a mattress (24). (Beney col. 2, lines 15-21.) Although Beney states that the support structure may be manipulated to various positions (*id.*), Beney does not disclose what those positions are or how the monitor (104) could be used, positioned or manipulated relating to any other position.

First, Beney does not disclose a patient table and monitor with multiple viewing positions. Beney discloses a monitor (104) that is supported on an end of the patient table (Beney col. 4, lines 63-67.) In fact, the monitor in Beney could not be viewed if it was positioned parallel to the patient support surface. The Examiner correctly stated that:

Beney fails to disclose at least one of said ends being movable relative to a corresponding one of said monitor and patient support surface to move

said monitor between a first and second viewing positions, in a first viewing position said monitor facing one direction when the patient is vertical, and in said second viewing position said monitor facing perpendicular to said first viewing position when the patient is horizontal.

The Examiner, however, concluded that O'Neill discloses a support member that inherently could be positioned in a first viewing position where the monitor is parallel to the patient table and a second viewing position where the monitor is perpendicular to the patient table. O'Neill, however, cannot be manipulated such that the monitor can be both parallel and perpendicular to the patient table. The monitor in O'Neill may only be moved in and out (relative to the wall) and up and down (relative to the floor). Beney and O'Neill therefore fail to disclose a patient table and monitor wherein the monitor has a first viewing position parallel to the patient table and a second viewing position perpendicular to the patient table.

Beney and O'Neill therefore do not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of claims 1-23, do not teach or suggest combining the references as suggested by the Examiner or that such a combination would be successful.

In order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. **First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine references teachings.** Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. **Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.** The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art and not based on applicants' disclosure. MPEP § 2142-2143 (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art references do not teach or suggest, a patient table and monitor wherein the monitor has a first viewing position parallel to the patient table and a second viewing position perpendicular to the patient

table included in independent claims 1, 11 and 16. Claims 2-7, 9-10, 12-15 and 17-23 all depend from claims 1, 11, and 16 and thus include all the limitations of the independent claims, including the limitation recited above.

Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion to combine Beney and O'Neill. The monitor in O'Neill is attached to a wall by a mounting bracket. (O'Neill col. 3, lines 45-49.) Beney on the other hand discloses a monitor attached to an end of a patient table. (Beney col. 4, lines 63-67.) There is no teaching to combine these references or any indication or expectation that such a combination would be successful.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 11, and 16 are allowable. Applicants also submit that dependent claims 2-7, 9-10, 12-15 and 17-23 are allowable because they depend from allowable claims 1, 11, and 16.

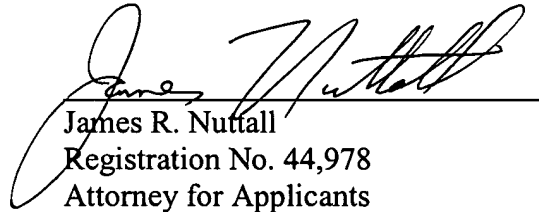
**CONCLUSION**

For the forgoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the Examiner's attention to detail and looks forward to working with the Examiner to resolve any remaining issues in the application. If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicants can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicants at the number below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account No. 070845.

Respectfully submitted,

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